

# Women of Destiny

Women's Ministry

Cathedral of Praise Church

## Editor's Notes

September 2009

Volume II, 2009

I had the privilege this summer of visiting my Mother's church and hearing the testimony of a couple just returned from Africa. Their story, particularly her story, struck me. She had long wanted to improve the health of Africans. Her entire family worked in health-care, and she was an artist, married to an engineer. She knew she couldn't go on a medical mission on her own, so she started praying that somehow God would use her husband to get her to Africa. She prayed for over 15 years and never told her husband. Her husband was content to send money for missions, he reasoned that the money was used more efficiently that way. Then during one day of the Willow Creek Leadership Summit he finally said, "whatever you want with me, Jesus." That week he was invited on a trip to

Africa and said "yes." They went on that trip together, started campaigning to drill wells in Africa, then returned three years later to drill the first well. It wasn't until their Pastor asked them to share their story in church that she finally told her husband what she had been praying all those years.

I love her example. She took her desire to God and didn't whine or complain; she just prayed and waited on Him. When your desires are frustrated by the actions of others, get on your knees. He can move mountains, and stubborn husbands!



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## Writer's Nook

### God's Boutique

"Come now, let us argue this out," says the Lord. "No matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can remove it. I can make you as clean as freshly fallen snow. Even if you are stained as red as crimson, I can make you as white as wool."

Isaiah 1:18 NLT

The little store on the other side of the street looked rather non-descript and plain to Priscilla, even in the twilight. Only the name at the front gave a clue to its remarkable inventory.

### Boutique of the Savior

The old is gone. The new has come.

Priscilla had walked through its doors, hours, or what seemed like a lifetime, ago. She'd agonized for months about the decision, her emotions rolling on a sea of uncertainty. When up, hope that she would be welcomed and outfitted reigned. When down, she was swallowed by the fear of being turned away at the door.

That morning, as she stepped through the door, the proprietor, Jesus, welcomed her. Priscilla felt such peace and safety in His presence. He kindly explained that her old clothes would have to be left with Him forever as they would not be compatible with the new ones

given her.

"Could you tell me how much your garments cost? I'm not sure I have enough money with me now," she said.

"All of my garments are too expensive for anyone to purchase. I've paid the price myself," He answered.

*Why would He pay for them Himself?*

"It was my Father's idea," He said, as if reading her thoughts. "He knows the sins you carry make it impossible for you to pay the purchase price. He wants you to be free, to become a new person. Will you accept?"

As tears filled her eyes, she nodded in agreement.

First He removed her jacket, the right sleeve stiff from an ocean of dried tears from people she had hurt with her words. Priscilla hadn't noticed how much their salt weighed her down, causing the pain in her back. The shirt was next, its cuffs and collar muddied from the cruel things she'd done. No amount of soap and water ever washed them clean. Then it was time for her torn pants.

"Looks like you've been walking through patches of bitter herbs. The nettle leaves have scratched your legs and given you a bad rash," Jesus commented. "My garments will take care of that."

Suddenly Priscilla was wearing a beautiful white dress made of the finest silk. Seed pearls were sewn at the collar and cuffs and, in just the right light, she could see the word "forgiven" woven everywhere into the fabric. She felt like a new woman!

Now, under cover of darkness, she was back at the boutique, overwhelmed with sadness. How could she have been silly enough to think she could be a new person? Her family and neighbors let her know, rather quickly, she was fooling herself. They still carried the pain of her words and bitter actions and said she didn't deserve freedom until they were ready.

Priscilla quietly walked to the alley behind the boutique planning to take her clothes, the ones she rightly deserved, out of the dustbin and leave the new dress until she had earned it. When she reached the alley, all she found was a wooden, blood-stained cross. Her old clothes were nailed to it!

"I paid the price," Jesus said quietly behind her. "Forgiveness is not something you earn. My Father and I give it to those who believe."

Kneeling before Jesus, her face to the ground, Priscilla said the words flooding her heart, "Thank you."

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## Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman

It's almost here ladies! I'm very excited to get started and pleased with how many have signed up. Our first meeting starts at 7pm Thursday, September 10th. If you haven't paid yet, you can pick up a member book at any of the Christian bookstores in town. If you would like to check us out, please feel free to join us sometime! Maybe this study doesn't fit in your schedule, but keep the Bible study in mind for the future. We will be starting a new study after this one is finished with a shorter study during the Summer. I hope you will enjoy them!

*"Just because you live in the king's palace, don't think that out of all the Jewish people you alone will escape. If you keep quiet at this time, someone else will help and save the Jewish people, but you and your father's family will all die. And who knows, you may have been chosen queen for just such a time as this."*

Esther 4:13-14 NCV

## Survey Time!

Well ladies, I thought it would be fun to learn a little bit more about you! Each newsletter I'll ask a question here and I'll share the answers the following newsletter. You can email them to [adresel@yahoo.com](mailto:adresel@yahoo.com) or drop off an anonymous note in my folder at the information center. I promise not to tell anyone what you've said!

**What is your favorite table game?** (Card game, board game, etc., a game you play at a table.)

Respond by October 19th to have your opinion included!

## Upcoming....

Our December fellowship dinner is right around the corner! If you would like to help decorate or cook, or if you would like to help plan it, come find Anne! Please call 245-3446, email [adresel@yahoo.com](mailto:adresel@yahoo.com), or leave a note at the Information Center!

## Cookbook

### Homemade Liquid Laundry Soap- Front or top load machine- best value

4 Cups hot tap water  
1 Fels-Naptha soap bar  
1 Cup Washing Soda (not baking soda!)  
½ Cup Borax

- Grate bar of soap and add to saucepan with water. Stir continually over medium-low heat until soap dissolves and is melted.

-Fill a 5 gallon bucket half full of hot tap water. Add melted soap, washing soda and Borax. Stir well until all powder is dissolved. Fill bucket to top with more hot water. Stir, cover and let sit overnight to thicken.

-Stir and fill a used, clean, laundry soap dispenser half full with soap and then fill rest of way with water. Shake before each use. (will gel)

-Optional: You can add 10-15 drops of essential oil per 2 gallons. Add once soap has cooled. Ideas: lavender, rosemary, tea tree oil.

-Yield: Liquid soap recipe makes 10 gallons.

-Top Load Machine- 5/8 Cup per load (Approx. 180 loads)

-Front Load Machines- ¼ Cup per load (Approx. 640 loads)

Submitted by Kelly Baugher



## Opportunity Corner

Looking for a place to plug in at Cathedral of Praise?

Try one of the volunteer opportunities listed below. If you enjoy it, great! If it's not a good fit, check this spot in the next newsletter for another new idea!

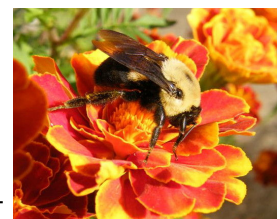
### Children's Fellowship.\*

We're looking for a few good people to teach and play with our children the first Sunday evening of the month. Take this opportunity to pour in to the lives of some of our children! If you would like to help out, Please contact Pastor Tracy at the church, 245-2434.

### Air Fresheners

Have a few minutes to help out? We need someone to change the air fresheners every 30-45 days. It only takes 15-30 minutes and would be a great help! Call pastor Daryl at 245-2434 to volunteer!

\*Volunteers with the Children's Ministry (5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger) must pass a background check and have attended Cathedral of Praise for at least 6 months.



Sand Springs, OK

Kelly Wilson

## September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## November 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### Schedule of Events

- ◆ September 7th, Labor Day
- ◆ September 10th, First Women's Bible Study
- ◆ September 18-19th, Intentional Women's Conference in Oklahoma City
- ◆ September 24th, Women's Bible Study
- ◆ October 2nd-3rd, Marriage Enrichment Weekend
- ◆ October 8th, Women's Bible Study
- ◆ October 12th, Columbus Day
- ◆ October 22nd, Women's Bible Study
- ◆ October 30-31st, Women of Faith Conference in Oklahoma City
- ◆ October 31st, Kid's Fest
- ◆ November 3rd, Women's Bible Study
- ◆ November 19th, Women's Bible Study
- ◆ November 26th, Thanksgiving

## Marriage Enrichment Weekend

"...and the two shall become one flesh." Wouldn't it be great if it all ended there? No disagreements, no hurt feelings, just "wedded bliss." That, however, is not the way it works. Often we hide our faults and fears while we are dating only to have them sneak out after we are married and comfortable with each other. And, of course, all of our spouse's little annoying habits just seem to appear out of nowhere!

So, what do we do about it? The World's answer is to give up and move on. "You obviously married the wrong person, so get a divorce and go find that 'perfect' person." "Counseling? Good idea, try it! You can always divorce if it doesn't work." Sounds quite depressing!



What about God? What does he have to say? Well, I invite you to find out at our upcoming Marriage Enrichment Weekend October 2nd and 3rd here at Cathedral of Praise. Richard and Brenda Exley will be leading the weekend telling us about "Marriage as God Intended It To Be" and ways to improve our relationships. Richard and Brenda have been married forty-three

years and lead many of these retreats each year. Richard Exley has been a guest speaker at Cathedral of Praise twice this year; at the Signs and Wonders conference in January and Father's Day in June.

I hope you and your spouse will consider attending. As Dale Gentry says, "One word can change your life," perhaps one weekend could change your marriage!

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